AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has conveyed its disappointment to Pakistan over the setback to the process of normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan caused by the training and weapons being given by that country to the terrorists; and

(b) if so, what is Pakistan Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistan has blandly denied providing such training and weapons.

Payment of bonus to Central Government Employees

2054. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHODHURY:

SHRI T. CHANDRA SEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the introduction of the new pay scales for Central Government employees from 1st of January, 1986 a large number of Central Government employees have been deprived of their bonus claims; and

(b) whether Government propose to increase the limit of basic pay to Rs. 3,000/- so that a large number of employees get the benefit of Central bonus and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Following enhancement in their emoluments as a result of revision of pay scales from 1st of January, 1986, some of the Central Government employees would have crossed the eligibility ceiling of Rs. 2,500/- for payment of bonus.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

Tobacco lying unsold with traders in Andhra Pradesh

2055. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large quantity of tobacco is lying unsold with the traders in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to purchase the same from the traders; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor and in what manner Government propose to provide relief to the traders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) As a result of sudden increase in production of FCV tobacco during 1983 and decline in exports that year, certain quantity of tobacco is reported to be lying unsold with the traders in Andhra Pradesh. Tobacco Board undertakes to regulate production, marketing and promote exports of tobacco to avoid such siutations emerging. Every endeavour is made by the Board for the disposal of stocks lying with the traders through exports. Support Price Operations are provided at the time of auctions organised by Board and the stocks are purchased by the Board for which there are no buyers at the minimum support price.

Government will not be able to purchase the stocks lying with the traders.

Consfitution of a board for Sick Uundertakings

2056. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of